

New Bedford Feb 9. 1845

William Lloyd Garrison

Dear Friend

I am
 requested by Mr Emerson and many
 other friends to add my enticement to
 theirs in behalf of a contemplated con-
 vention in this town - & I do it read-
 ily because I am convinced of the im-
 portance of the measure -

We also believe that the discussion a-
 wake here by the surrender of
 a fugitive & the abandonment of one
 of our citizens to the horrors of a
 Southern prison - may be made the
 means of greatly advancing the cause
 - Mr Richardson's disclaimer - the
 miserable statement of Gilbert Rich-
 ardson - the unmercifulness of the
 press & the arguments undertaken respect-
 ing all these at every Street's corner
 indicate plainly enough - that the
 public mind is so much warmed as
 to be susceptible of impressions - & we
 are quite convinced that the hour

has come - & we wish only to be assured
of the Men - We wish to hold
a convention that shall tell upon
this community - which has contrived
to remain a taboo - long enough -

It will be of no use however to do
any thing of the kind unless we can
be assured that you & Wendell can
both be here - Without this assurance
nothing will be attempted - both if
we shall proceed to advertise - to "com-
municate" - such predictions to our daily
papers as will fix public attention anx-
iously on the convention - to invite Edmund
Quincy, S. G. May, C. C. Burleigh & the
Hutchinsons - & to make arrangements
for paying the expenses of these friends.
The time will be left to your de-
termination - only it is important that
it should be as early as possible - & quite
settled that Friday - Saturday & Sunday
must be the days of the convention.

I know that the friends here would
be very glad if your leisure would permit
you to be with us - a fortnight from this
date - & if you should find that both
yourself & Wendell could come at that time

they would wish the convention to be
advertised in the Liberator of this
week - Mention the names of all the
speakers ~~whom you can~~ with certainty be here
& if no answer can be obtained from the
Hutchinsons in season - Say that it
is hoped that they will be present -
(I think they might get a good concert
here after singing at the convention)

Don't let any one suggest to Henry Clapp
the possibility of his coming - it would
be a misfortune were he to be here,
he is unfavourably regarded here as
I believe every where - He deserves to be
every where - It is very important to
the integrity of the cause in New Bedford
that the New Hampshire difficulties should
be seen in their true light - & I need not
point out to you the mischief that
Clapp might be able to do here ^{many of}
French has addressed circulars to ~~the~~
the friends here - in which I under-
stand that he proposes to "resume
the publication of the Herald" - &
that Rogers shall continue to edit it,
I have not yet seen this circular
but will send you a copy if I can pro-

will one before closing this letter - I think this step cannot fail to show the friends here, the real state of the case

In conclusion I do assure you that no more important claim has been made upon you for long time than the one

Truman Church

William Lloyd Garrison.

Boston.

Mass.

We would say - I hope to see in the next Liberator the announcement of a convention to be held here ^{commencing} on the Friday of the succeeding week - & promising the presence of yourself & Wendell - &c. I anticipate great results from such a meeting at this time - pray